

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-24, and 26-31 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification and claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 14, 17 and 26-28 are amended, claims 4 and 25 are cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, and claims 29-31 are added. No new matter is added.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 4, 5, 12, 13 and 23-26 contain allowable subject matter. These features have been incorporated into the various independent claims.

In the Office Action, the specification is objected to. By this Amendment, paragraphs [0015] and [0049], which reference a preferred propulsion source in the form of one or more sealed quantum jet turbine engines, are amended as requested by the Examiner to refer to an application number rather than our attorney docket number. The specification is now in proper form. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claim 27 is objected to. By this Amendment, claim 27 is amended as suggested to correct claim dependency. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action: (1) claims 1, 6, 10, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,797,563 to Blackburn et al.; (2) claims 1-3, 6, 7 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,891,600 to Cox; (3) claims 8, 9 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Cox in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,367,739 to Paterro; (4) claims 17-19, 21-22 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Cox in view of Paterro; (5) claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Cox and Paterro further in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US2003/0127559 to Walmsley; and (6) claim 28 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Cox and Paterro further in view of Walmsley. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of canceled claim 4. Accordingly, independent claim 1 and claims 2-3 and 5-16 dependent therefrom define over the applied art and are allowable.

Independent claim 17 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of canceled claim 25. Accordingly, independent claim 17 and claims 18-24 and 26-27 dependent therefrom define over the applied art and are allowable.

Independent claim 28 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of canceled claim 25 and to alternatively incorporate the allowable subject matter of claims 23 and 24. Accordingly, independent claim 28 defines over the applied art and is allowable.

New independent claim 29 alternatively incorporates the allowable subject matter of claims 12 and 13 in independent form. Accordingly, independent claim 29 defines over the applied art and is allowable.

New dependent claims 30-31 are added. Claim 30 specifies the preferred propulsion source and claim 31 specifies the addition of an exhaust. Both claims are allowable for their dependence on allowable base claims and for the additional features recited therein.

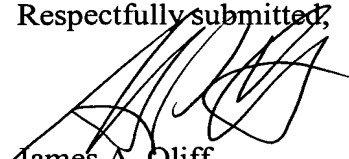
Withdrawal of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 8, 14, 17 and 28 are amended for clarity to recite that the propulsion source is a quantum jet turbine engine. These claims are supported, for example, in paragraphs [0015] and [0049].

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of pending claims 1-3, 5-24 and 26-31 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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JAO:SPC/fpw

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Amendment Transmittal

Date: August 16, 2005

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